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LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH and the PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR for the year 1962

November 1963



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Leek Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1962

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR C. R. HEWLETT, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. HAMMOND

Members:

Councillor	J. T. Barks	Councillor	H. Mear
"	G. Biddle	"	A. Mellor
"	F. E. Brocklehurst	"	T. Riley
"	H. Cotton	"	A. M. Robinson
"	C. R. Critchlow	"	Mrs. M. Robson
"	R. G. Grindon (died December 1962)	"	G. Shufflebotham
"	W. Hancock, C.B.E.	"	Mrs. G. Sigley
"	H. Harrison	"	J. G. Stubbs
"	T. Hine	"	W. G. S. Stubbs
"	S. E. Hulme	"	J. Torr
"	S. Jackson	"	F. Tunnicliffe

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Health Inspector:

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.L., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector:

T. SPENCER, Cert. R.S.I.

OFFICES

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 18, Stockwell Street, Leek,
Staffs. (Tel.: Leek 1061)**

REPORT

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	... ... ... ... ...	72,623 acres
Number of inhabited houses	... ... ...	6,505
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1962	... ...	£142,444
Net product of 1d. rate for year ended 31/3/62		£571/5/1
Estimated Population	... ... ... ...	19,940
Number of persons per acre	... ... ... ...	.270

INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining, but a substantial number of persons are employed in the City of Stoke-on-Trent, in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire border.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	187	174	361
Illegitimate	6	3	9
	193	177	370

Birthrate per 1,000 of the population — 18.56 (18.0)

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	4	7	11
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	4	7	11

Rate per 1,000 of the population — .56 (.33)

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	113	91	204

Death rate per 1,000 of the population — 10.23 (11.9)

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	6	1	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	6	1	7

Death rate per 1,000 live births — 18.92 (21.4)

(The rates for England and Wales are shown in parenthesis)

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non- Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Cases on Register 31/12/61	54	34	88	6	7	13	60	41	101
New Cases notified during year	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	3
	55	34	89	7	8	15	62	42	104
Cases removed from Register during year	2	1	3	—	—	—	2	1	3
Cases on Register 31/12/62	53	33	86	7	8	15	60	41	101
For purposes of comparison I give below the details of new notifications for the seven years 1956-1962.									
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non- Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1962	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	3
1961	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	1
1960	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2
1959	4	1	5	1	1	2	5	2	7
1958	5	3	8	—	—	—	5	3	8
1957	—	—	—	1	1	3	2	2	4
1956	3	4	7	2	1	3	5	5	10

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1962 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:-

	1962	1961	1960	1959
Measles	23	279	34	339
Whooping Cough	1	6	47	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	8	2	2
Scarlet Fever	5	4	13	26
Erysipelas	3	—	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	5	21	1	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (P.I.)	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	2	6	3
Tuberculosis — Pulmonary	1	1	2	6
Tuberculosis — Non. Pul.	2	—	—	1
Total Cases	42	323	106	384

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis	Dysentery	Acute Poliomyelitis (N.P.)	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas
Alstonefield					1				
Bagnall									
Bradnop				1					
Butterton									
Endon and Stanley	4								2
Fawfieldhead									
Grindon									
Heathylee									
Heaton									
Hollinsclough									
Horton				2	1				
Ilam									
Leekfrith									
Longnor									
Longsdon			4				1		
Norton-in-the-Moors	17	1		2	1	4			1
Onecote									
Quarnford									
Rushton									
Sheen									
Tittesworth	2				1				
Warslow and Elkstones									
Wetton									
Total	...	...	23	1	2	5	3	5	—
									3

Months of Occurrence

January	2		1	1					1
February									
March									
April									
May							4		
June									
July	2				1				
August	1								1
September					1				
October	1		1						
November	3	1		2					
December	14			2	1	1			1
Total	...	...	23	1	2	5	3	5	3

Infectious Diseases — Age Groups

AGE GROUP	Diseases											
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 2 years	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 to 4 years	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—9 years	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—14 years	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—24 years	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—44 years	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—64 years
65 and over
Total (all ages)	12	11	—	1	2	—	2	3	—	3
TOTAL — Male and Female	23	1	2	5	—	—	5	—	—	3

Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1962

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	—
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	5	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms ...	8	9
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1
Diabetes	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	14	16
Coronary disease, angina	18	9
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	—
Other heart disease	15	13
Other circulatory disease	9	4
Influenza	1	2
Pneumonia	2	4
Bronchitis	11	3
Other disease of respiratory system ...	4	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	9	8
Motor Vehicle accidents	1	—
All other accidents	2	4
Suicide	2	2
Homicide and operations of war ...	1	—
Total all causes	113	91

Sanitary inspection of the Area —

Summary of Visits

HOUSING:

(a) Inspection for defects	53
(b) Council House applicants	33
(c) Moveable dwellings	10
(d) Housing Inspections	80
(e) Improvement Grant applicants	290
(f) Rent Act	3
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GENERAL:

Inspection of premises for nuisances	28
Food premises	8
Slaughterhouses and knacker's yard	710
Drainage inspections	265
Privy conversions	40
Water supplies — general	70
Samples of water taken	103
Shops	97
Refuse and nightsoil collection and disposal	324
Infectious diseases	9
Fumigations and Infestations	1
Rodent control	139
Factories	25
Petroleum stores	13
Swimming pool	10
Miscellaneous	46
Ice Cream Shops	1
Milk Supply	7
	<hr/> 2,365

NOTICES SERVED

1.	Informal Notices	65
	Statutory Notices	4
2.	(a) Number of Nuisances Remedied .	13
	(b) Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and Informal notices	41

WATER SUPPLIES

EASTERN PARISHES WATER SUPPLY

Section "A" Part 1

Eight new connections were made during the year making a total of 195 properties connected as follows:—

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ALSTONEFIELD	... ... 58*	33	18
ILAM	... ... 16	12	8
WETTON	... ... 25	17	8
	—	—	—
	99	62	34

(* One stand-tap serves 5 properties)

Section "A" Part 2

This, the major section of the Eastern Parishes Water Scheme which was commenced in June, 1959, was virtually completed at the end of this year. The whole scheme when put into complete operation will serve parts of the parishes of Alstonfield, Butterton, Fawfieldhead, Grindon, Hollinselough, Ilam, Longnor, One-cote, Sheen, Warslow and Elkstones and Wetton. The supply is extracted from the River Manifold at Hulme End where it is treated and pumped to the service reservoirs at Grindon, Newtown, Sheen and Wetton.

The parishes of Alstonfield and Wetton (which have in the past been supplied in bulk from the South Derbyshire Water Board) and Longnor village (which was originally served by a small village scheme) were linked to the Hulme End system during the summer of this year. The village of Ilam continues for the time being to be supplied with water obtained from the South Derbyshire Water Board.

HORTON, LONGSDON AND RUDYARD WATER SCHEME

Twelve new connections were made during the year making a total of 224 properties connected as follows:

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ENDON AND STANLEY	... 16	4	—
HORTON	... ... 108	45	4
LONGSDON	... ... 31	12	4
	—	—	—
	155	61	8

An extension of some 300 yards to serve the properties in Reaeliffe Road, Rudyard was made available for connections in early January.

RUSHTON WATER SCHEME

The scheme to supply water to the parishes of Heaton and Rushton which was commenced in April 1961 was completed in August and at the end of the year 46 properties were connected as follows:—

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
HEATON	... ... 9	2	—
RUSHTON	... ... 19	16	—
	—	—	—
	28	18	—

BOTTOM HOUSE WATER SUPPLY

This scheme to supply the several smallholdings in the Bottom-house area was completed in July, and at the end of the year seven properties were connected.

SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES

Ninety-three samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and ten for chemical analysis, the results of which are tabulated below:-

Source	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Analysis		
	No. of Samples Taken	Satis	Unsatis	No. of Samples Taken	Satis	Unsatis
Well	6	4	2	—	—	—
Spring	21	12	9	1	1	—
Borehole	2	2	—	—	—	—
Public Mains	64	55	9*	9	5	4†
Total	93	73	20	10	6	4†

* These were routine samples taken from new lengths of mains not yet in service satisfactory results were obtained following further chlorination and flushing.

† These samples carried iron in excess of 0.3 p.p.m.

REPORTS ON SAMPLES TAKEN FROM PUBLIC MAINS SUPPLIES

EASTERN PARISHES WATER SUPPLY

Date and Hour of collection	PUMPING STATION HULME END SAMPLE NO. 736
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION	13.6.62 - 11.05 a.m.
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days at 37° C	Nil
CHEMICAL ANALYSIS	
pH Value	8.8
Total solid matter dried at 212° F	Parts per million
Free and saline ammonia	80.0
Albuminoid ammonia	0.076
Nitric Nitrogen	0.016
Chlorine present as Chlorides	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F	13.0
Appearance	0.16
Metallic Contamination	Trace of suspended matter Clear and Colourless Zinc, Copper, Lead and Iron Absent

MAINS SUPPLIES — GENERAL

REPORT ON SAMPLES OF WATER TAKEN FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

	BOTTOM- HOUSE	RUSHTON	LONGNOR	BUTTERTON
Date and Sample	2.5.62.	4.6.62.	19.6.62.	27.8.62.
Numbers	(727)	(730-735)	(757)	(769)
Probable numbers per 100 ml.				
Coliform Bacilli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bact. Coli (Type I)	—	—	—	—
Plate Count at 37° C	... ...	—	—	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

An extension to the public sewers to serve some 53 properties at Hough Hill, Broad Lane and Hill Top, Brown Edge was commenced in June.

CONVERSION OF PRIVIES TO WATER CLOSETS

The Council makes contributions to property owners desirous of converting their toilets into water closets, the contribution being up to half the cost of the work with a maximum of £20. During the year 6 applications were approved, the Council's total contribution for these being £115.

Further to the above under the Improvement Grant conditions, 36 W.C.s were installed as part of the improvements.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse and nightsoil is collected from dwellings in every parish of the district by direct labour and tipping is carried out at the various village tips which are levelled and tidied from time to time.

The tip at Stockton Brook is still taking the bulk of the refuse at which 2,700 loads (approximately 18,900 cubic yards) were disposed of in 1962.

During the year 324 visits and inspections in respect of Refuse Collection were made by the Public Health Officers.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

NUMBER OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER:-

Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Non-Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE 25

Only two factories are of any size.

A small number of outworkers are employed, chiefly by the Silk Manufacturers in Leek and are concerned with the finishing of wearing apparel.

HOUSING

Action taken under the Housing Acts during the year

Demolition and Closing Orders:

Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action under the Housing Acts (including butments at Blackshaw Moor Camp)	67
Parts of Buildings closed	Nil
Closing Orders made under Housing Act, 1957	11

Repairs

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit by informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts	41
Number of houses where defects were remedied after service of formal notices under Public Health Acts:	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices under the Housing Acts:	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	Nil

Unfit houses in temporary use

Houses licensed for temporary occupation under Housing Act, 1957	Nil
--	-----

Purchase of houses by agreement

Houses purchased in Clearance Areas (other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders)	Nil
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New Houses ERECTED during the Year

(a) By Private Enterprise	78
(b) By Local Authority	26
<hr/>	
104	

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
Number of Applications received during the year	35	7
Number of Applications in abeyance from previous year	7	1
Number of Improvement Grants made in respect of:—		
(a) Improvements to existing houses	38	7
(b) Conversion of buildings into living accommodation	1	—
Total cost of work involved qualifying for grant	£28,636	—
Total value of Improvement Grants approved	£12,183	£925
Number of Improvement Grant Applications refused or withdrawn	2	—
Number of Applications in abeyance	1	1
Number of Improvement works completed during the year...	26	16

Of the 46 grants approved 41 were in respect of owner occupied property and 5 in respect of tenanted property.

RODENT CONTROL

The Public Sewers and Refuse Tips were treated as necessary and the rat population was kept to a minimum.

The Council's Sewage Works were successfully treated on occasions throughout the year and the infestations kept under control.

The Council's free service for domestic premises was increasingly made use of and in appropriate cases as an economy measure, bait suitable for mice clearance was issued to householders.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Forty-three licences were issued for the bulk storage of 57,150 gallons of Petroleum spirit.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1329	5	6479	551	—
Number inspected	1329	5	6479	551	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	117	—	774	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	8.80	—	11.91	.54	—
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	12	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	.38	—	—	2.18	—
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	4	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by re- frigeration ...	4	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

Weight of Meat condemned due to:

(a) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	118 lbs.
(b) Other diseases or conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,891 lbs.
							3,012 lbs.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

6lb. 12oz. Corned Beef; 4lb. 6oz. Beans; 42lb. Fish,

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Regulations prescribing the standards of hygiene and prevention of cruelty in slaughter houses became operative in the Council's area in April, and the five slaughterhouses were brought up to the required standard by the execution of additional work and alterations and by the provision of modern fittings and equipment.

FOOD SHOPS AND PREPARING PREMISES

Ninety premises are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

D. K. PEDLEY

Public Health Inspector

